

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/707,140
Docket NO.: 11413-US-PA

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The drawings are objected under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The Office Action rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The Office Action also rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Laturell (U.S. 2004/0052242). The Office Action further rejected claims 6-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laturell in view of Ahn et al. (U.S. 2003/0021261) and Aponte et al. (U.S. 6,371,780). The Office Action rejected claims 8-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laturell in view of Cassista et al. (U.S. 2002/0007459). Applicants have amended claims 8-9 to overcome the objection and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-9 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Summary of Applicant's Invention

The Applicant's invention is directed to a community dialing circuit apparatus for plain old telephone service (POTS) phone and internet protocol (IP) phone. The community dialing circuit apparatus integrates an IP phone and a POTS phone into one and provides a combination keypad (paragraph [0024]). Furthermore, both the POTS keypad 113 and the IP phone keypad 123 use the same key panel of the combination keypad 141 (paragraph [0026] and Fig. 1). That is, when any one of the key of the key panel of the combination keypad 141 is pressed, the same key of the POTS

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keypad 113 and the same key of the IP phone keypad 123 are also be pressed(paragraph [0026] and Fig. 1). By using the apparatus of the present invention, the POTS phone and IP phone can be integrated in the same key panel and the user can simply and directly inputs the phone numbers in the form of the POTS phone number format or the IP phone number format to the same combination key panel. Hence, either the IP phone system or the POTS phone is activated.

Discussion of Office Action Objections

According to the Office Action, the drawings were objected under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because the drawings do not show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In response thereto, applicants have amended claim 8 by deleting the limitation "a plurality of phototransistors" and further limiting the insulating system to be a photo-coupling system according to the description of the insulating system recited in the paragraph [0032]. Hence, every feature in the amended claim 8 is shown in Fig. 1 and no new matter is entered.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections

The Office Action rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particular point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention..

In response thereto, Applicants have amended claim 9 to be a dependent claim for further defining claim 5 but not 1 in order to provide sufficient antecedent basis for the

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limitation "the switch device" in claim 9. No new matter has been added into the application by the amendment made herein. Hence, reconsideration and withdrawal of the above rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action also rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Laturell (U.S. 2004/0052242) and asserted that Laturell discloses all claimed features of the present invention.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

It is well established that anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102 requires each and every elements of the rejected claims must be disclosed exactly by a single prior art reference.

The independent claim 1 is allowable for at least the reason that Laturell fails to teach or disclose each and every features of the proposed independent claim 1. AS stated above, claim 1 recites:

Claim 1. A community dialing circuit apparatus incorporating an Internet Protocol (IP) phone and a Plain Old Phone Service (POTS) phone, comprising:

an IP phone system for activating an IP phone according to an IP phone number;

a POTS phone system for activating a POTS phone according to a POTS phone number;

an insulation system electrically connected between the IP phone system and the POTS phone system for insulating the IP phone system from the POTS system; and

a key panel connected to the IP phone system and the POTS phone system;

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(Emphasis added). Applicants submit that claim 1 patently defines over the cited arts for at least the reason that the cited art fails to disclose at least the features emphasized above.

More specifically, Laturell fails to teach or suggest that POTS phone and IP phone are using the same key panel. The Office Action asserted that the state/command interpreter (SCI) 1070 disclosed by Laturell is physically and functionally equal to the key panel of the present invention. However, in the cited art, Laturell emphasizes that "SCI 1070 monitors POTS lines for line state and commands....(paragraph [0096])....voice-over IP (VoIP) traffic from IP devices is reassembled from the IP layer and analyzed by SCI 1070 for line state (e.g. offhook) and embedded commands (i.e. hookswitch flash, special DTMF sequences and/or speech commands)....(paragraph [0104])". Obviously, the SCI disclosed by Laturell is served a command and line state "interpreter" but not a key panel for the user to input phone numbers. Applicants respectfully submit that SCI 1070 disclosed by Laturell is physically and functionally different from the key panel of the present invention.

Furthermore, there is no evidence founded in Laturell's applicant that the POTS phone is integrated with the IP phone. As shown in Fig. 10 of the cited art, IP phone 1020 possesses it's own keypad and POTS handsets 1040 and 1045 have their own keypads respectively.

Moreover, apparatus provided by Laturell is selectively and automatically connecting the conventional analog POTS phones 1040 and/or 1045 to either central office (CO) of the local telephone company or to a broadband network (paragraph [0009]). However, as for the present invention, the IP phone and the POTS phone are

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integrated into one telephone set and both the IP phone and the POTS phone can be connected to broadband network and the POTS system respectively. Hence, the phone connection mechanism of Laturell's application is different from that of the present invention. Therefore, people skilled in the art would not modify Laturell's application by integrating IP key panels and POTS key panels since the motivation and the mechanism of Laturell's application is different from that of the invention.

Therefore, Laturell substantially fails to teach each and every feature of claim 1, and therefore, Laturell cannot possibly anticipate the claimed invention as claimed in the proposed independent claim 1 in this regard.

Claims 2-5, which depend from claim 1, are also patentable over Laturell, at least because of their dependency from an allowable base claim.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-5 patently define over Laturell, and therefore should be allowed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the above rejections is respectfully requested.

The Office Action further rejected claims 6-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laturell in view of Ahn et al. (U.S. 2003/0021261) and Aponte et al. (U.S. 6,371,780). The Office Action rejected claims 8-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laturell in view of Cassista et al. (U.S. 2002/0007459).

Since claims 6-9 are dependent claims which further define the invention recited in claim 1, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance according to the same reasons as discussed above for the rejection 102. Thus,

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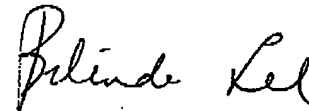
reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectively requested.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-9 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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